

### **REMARKS**

After entry of this amendment, Claims 1-8 and 10-54 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 12-15 and 19-54 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, 11, 16, 22, 23, 32, 33, 45, and 46 have been amended. Claim 9 has been canceled. Support for the recitation "wherein the DHAM-kinase is PAK2" of claims 1 and 2 can be found throughout the specification, *inter alia*, at page 7, paragraph 1. Claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, and 16 have been amended to depend on claim 1 or claim 2. Claim 11 has been amended to depend on claim 10. Claims 22, 23, 32 and 33 have been amended to correct a minor typographical error ("acording" to "according"). Claims 45 and 46 have been amended to correct antecedent basis. No new matter has been added.

### **Status of the Application**

The Examiner contends that the information disclosure statement mailed on April 18, 2003 did not include a list of patents, publications or other information (Form 1449/PTO).

Applicants submit that Form 1449/PTO was filed and submit a copy of the stamped reply postcard as evidence. Also submitted is a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement (Form 1449/PTO) mailed on April 18, 2003. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the listed references.

### **Election/Restrictions**

In the Office Action dated November 4, 2003, the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement in the instant application. The Examiner alleged that the claims of the instant application include eight independent and distinct inventions.

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect without traverse to prosecute in this application the subject matter of Group I, claims 1-11 and 16-18 (now claims 1-8, 10, 11 and 16-18, as amended) directed to a method for determining whether a substance is an activator or an inhibitor of a function of a DHAM-kinase having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 or a variant, mutant, or fragment of SEQ ID NO:4.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute in one or more divisional applications whatever subject matter is not examined or allowed here.

**CONCLUSION**

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the application is now in form for issuance and an early allowance is earnestly requested. If any issues remain, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

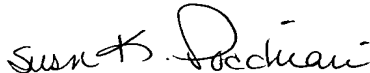


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on February 3, 2004.



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